

<sup>3</sup>  
~~6~~ (Amended) The [surface protection system] mat of claim <sup>2</sup>  
~~6~~, wherein said durable material is selected from the group consisting essentially of polypropylene, nylon, plastic, rubber and synthetic material.

<sup>4</sup>  
~~7~~ (Amended) The [surface protection system] mat of claim <sup>1</sup>  
~~17~~, wherein said moisture absorbance means is made of at least one layer of absorbent material.

<sup>5</sup>  
~~8~~ (Amended) The [surface protection system] mat of claim <sup>3</sup>  
~~8~~, wherein said absorbent material is selected from the group consisting essentially of wood pulp, fibers, polymers, and combinations thereof.

Please cancel claim 9.

<sup>6</sup>  
~~10~~ (Amended) The [surface protection system] mat of claim <sup>2</sup>  
~~17~~, wherein said [barrier means] base unit includes skid-resistant means for the prevention of any movement of said surface protection system.

Please cancel claim 11.

<sup>7</sup>  
~~12~~ (Amended) The [surface protection system] mat of claim <sup>sub c1</sup>  
~~17~~, wherein said surface protection system is a single, disposable sealed system. <sup>b3</sup>

15

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63 13. (Amended) The ~~surface protection system~~ mat of claim  
[4] 17, wherein said surface protection system is disposable and recyclable.

Please cancel claims 14 and 15.

Sub 14 C2 816. (Amended) A method of protecting a restroom surface  
from spillage of [liquids] urine by placing said surface protection system of claim  
[4] 17 on the surface in need of protection.

Sub C3 1/5  
( 17. (New) A urinal or commode mat for protecting a  
restroom surface from spillage of liquids, said mat comprising:  
a cartridge unit comprising moisture absorbing means for  
absorbing and retaining liquid;  
a rigid cartridge top disposed over and connected to said  
moisture absorbing means for collecting and draining liquid onto said  
moisture absorbing means;  
barrier means disposed beneath and connected to said  
moisture absorbing means for preventing moisture escape from said moisture  
absorbing means; and  
a base unit operatively connected to said cartridge unit and  
containing said cartridge unit.

16

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